



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Monday, February 4, 2008

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District of Arizona*

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## **PAIR SENTENCED TO PRISON AND FACING DEPORTATION FOR SMUGGLING TEENAGE SIBLINGS**

TUCSON, Ariz. – Brenda Adilene Corral-Miranda, 18, of Nogales, Son., Mex., and Sergio Lorona-Carino, 48, of Tucson, Ariz., were sentenced here in separate cases by U.S. District Judges David C. Bury and Cindy K. Jorgenson, to 15 months and 8 months in federal prison, respectively. Corral-Miranda, a Mexican citizen whose border crossing documents were revoked at arrest, and Lorona-Carino, a Mexican citizen and Permanent Resident Alien of the U.S., are also facing deportation proceedings upon completion of their prison sentences.

Corral-Miranda pleaded guilty on October 24, 2007, to conspiracy to transport an illegal alien for profit, and Lorona-Carino pleaded guilty on October 11, 2007 to conspiracy to transport illegal aliens (not for profit). Corral-Miranda was sentenced on January 8, 2008 and Lorona-Carino was sentenced today.

Corral-Miranda admitted that on August 17, 2007, at approximately 10:15 a.m., she attempted to enter the U.S. through the pedestrian lane of the Nogales, Ariz. Port of Entry with a 14-year old girl. Corral-Miranda presented another child's border crossing visa for the girl and claimed the girl was a neighbor. The inspector became suspicious because the photo on the visa did not resemble the girl and Corral-Miranda did not know the names of the girl's parents. Upon further questioning, Corral-Miranda admitted that she did not know the girl and had agreed with an unknown woman to cross the girl into the U.S. and leave her at the first store in Nogales, Ariz. After leaving the girl, Corral-Miranda was going to return to Mexico and receive 1,000 pesos for her services.

Approximately 35 minutes after Corral-Miranda's attempted entry into the U.S., Lorona-Carino attempted to enter the U.S. at the same port of entry in Nogales, Ariz. with two children, a 12-year old female and a 10-year old male. Lorona-Carino presented border crossing visas issued to other children for the boy and girl and told the Inspector that they were his niece and nephew. The Inspector noticed that the girl did not resemble the girl in the visa photo, but rather looked very similar to the 14-year old girl Corral-Miranda had attempted to smuggle into the U.S. 35 minutes earlier. Further investigation revealed that the girls were in fact sisters. The 10-year old boy was not related to either girl. Upon further questioning, Lorona-Carino admitted that he did not know the children but was smuggling the children as a favor to a woman he knew only as "Carmen" in Nogales, Son., Mex. The woman had supplied the false border crossing visas and Lorona-Carino was going to take the children to an unknown man in a park in Nogales, Ariz.

The three smuggled children were turned over to the custody of the Mexican Department of Family Services (the Mexican equivalent of U.S. Child Protective Services) and have been reunited with their families.

The investigation in these cases was conducted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Nogales, Ariz. The prosecutions were handled by Mary Sue Feldmeier, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBERS: CR 07-1614-TUC-DCB-(BPV) - Corral-Miranda  
CR-07-1613-TUC-CKJ-(JCG) - Lorona-Carino  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-017(Corral-Miranda & Lorona-Carino)

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